IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for controlled drug delivery comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic and a combination of at least two carbomers.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said cephalosporin antibiotic is selected from cefdinir, cefditoren pivoxil, cefepime, cefixime, cefoperazone, cefotetan, cefpodoxime paroxetil, cefprozil, cefazidine, ceftibuten, ceftriaxone, cefuroxime axetil, cephalexin, cefaclor, cefadroxil, cefamandole, cefoxitin, cefalothin, moxalactum, cefapirin, ceftizoxime, cefonicid, cephadrine, loracarbef, cefetamet and pharmaceutically acceptable hydrates, salts or esters thereof.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 2 wherein said cephalosporin is cefprozil or its pharmaceutical acceptable hydrates, salts or esters.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 3 wherein said cefprozil or their pharmaceutical acceptable hydrates, salts or esters may be present in an amount from 100 mg. to 1000 mg.

5. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein said cefprozil or their pharmaceutical acceptable hydrates, salts or ester may be present from about 30-90% w/w of the formulation.

6. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said carbomers are a mixture of Carbopol 971P® and Carbopol 974P®.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said carbomers comprise about 0.1% to 50% by weight of the controlled release composition.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said carbomers are present at a concentration from about 5% to about 50% comprising of Carbopol 971P in an amount from about 0.1% to about 20% by weight and Carbopol 974P in an amount from about 0.1% to about 30% by weight of controlled release composition.

9. (Currently amended) The Composition of claim 1 which further comprises other pharmaceutically acceptable excipients selected amongst water-soluble or water dispersible diluents and lubricants.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 9 wherein said water-soluble diluent is selected from lactose, mannitol, glucose, sorbitol, maltose, dextrates, dextrins and the like.

11. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein said water-soluble diluent is lactose ~~from about 5% to about 20% by weight of the formulation~~.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The composition of claim 9 wherein said water dispersible diluent is selected from amongst microcystalline cellulose, starch, pre-gelantinized starch, magnesium aluminum silicates and the like.

14. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein said water dispersible diluent is microcrystalline cellulose ~~from about 5% to about 20% by weight of the formulation~~.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The composition of claim 9 wherein said pharmaceutical excipient is either one or a combination of lubricants at a concentration in the range of about 0.2% to 5% by weight of the composition.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 9 wherein said lubricant is selected from talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, colloidal silicon dioxide, calcium stearate, zinc stearate, hydrogenated vegetable oil and the like.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The process for the preparation of the pharmaceutical composition comprising mixing together, a cephalosporin antibiotic or their pharmaceutically acceptable hydrates, salts or esters; with combination of carbomers and optionally, with one or more water soluble or water dispersible diluents and lubricants to form the blend, and compressing the blend into tablets.

20. (Original) The process of claim 19 wherein the blend may be compacted into granules.

21. (Original) A controlled release composition of cephalosporin antibiotic comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of cephalosporin antibiotic, combination of carbomers, a water-soluble and/or water dispersible diluent and pharmaceutically acceptable tablet excipients for controlling the release of cephalosporin antibiotic.

22. (Original) A controlled release composition comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic and a release controlling polymer wherein the C_{max} is substantially the same as that of a single dose of an immediate release formulation.

23. (Original) A controlled release composition of claim 22 wherein the cephalosporin antibiotic is cefprozil.

24. (Original) A controlled release composition comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic and a release-controlling polymer wherein the T > MIC at 0.25 mcg/ml was achieved for about 75% of the dosing interval and T > MIC of 2 mcg/ml was achieved for almost 49% of the dosing interval.

25. (Original) A controlled release composition of claim 24 wherein the cephalosporin antibiotic is cefprozil.

26. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ controlled release composition ~~of claim 21 further~~ comprising from about 30 - 90 % w/w of cefprozil and from about 0.1-50 % by weight of one or a mixture of carbomers and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients selected from amongst diluents and lubricants.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) The composition of claim 11 wherein said lactose amounts from about 5% to about 20% by weight of the formulation.

29. (New) The composition of claim 14 wherein said microcrystalline cellulose amounts from about 5% to about 20% by weight of the formulation.

30. (New) The composition of claim 17 wherein said lubricant is preferably selected from talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate and colloidal silicon dioxide.

31. (New) A controlled release composition of claim 26 preferably comprising from about 40-80% w/w of cefprozil and from about 0.1-40% w/w of one or a mixture of carbomers and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients selected from amongst diluents and lubricants.